



Update on EFSA's strategy for the identification of emerging risks in the food/feed chain

The Emerging Risks Unit:

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REGULATION (EC) No 178/2002 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 28 January 2002

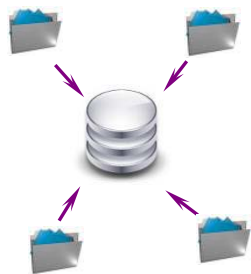
Laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety

Article 34

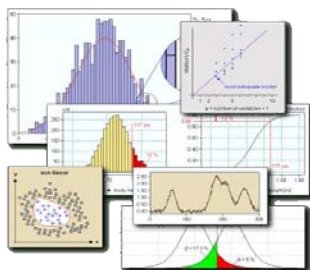
Identification of emerging risks

1. The Authority shall establish **monitoring** procedures for systematic searching for, **collecting**, **collating** and **analysing** information and data **with a view to the identification of emerging risks** in the fields within its mission.

Collecting and collating



Analyse and filter



sharing

.... an emerging risk to human, animal, and/or plant health is understood as a risk resulting from a **newly identified hazard** to which a significant exposure may occur or from an unexpected **new or increased significant exposure** and/or **susceptibility** to a known hazard.

ESFA, 2007. Definition and description of « emerging risks » within the EFSA's mandate. Statement of the Scientific Committee, 10 July 2007.

During the start up phase:

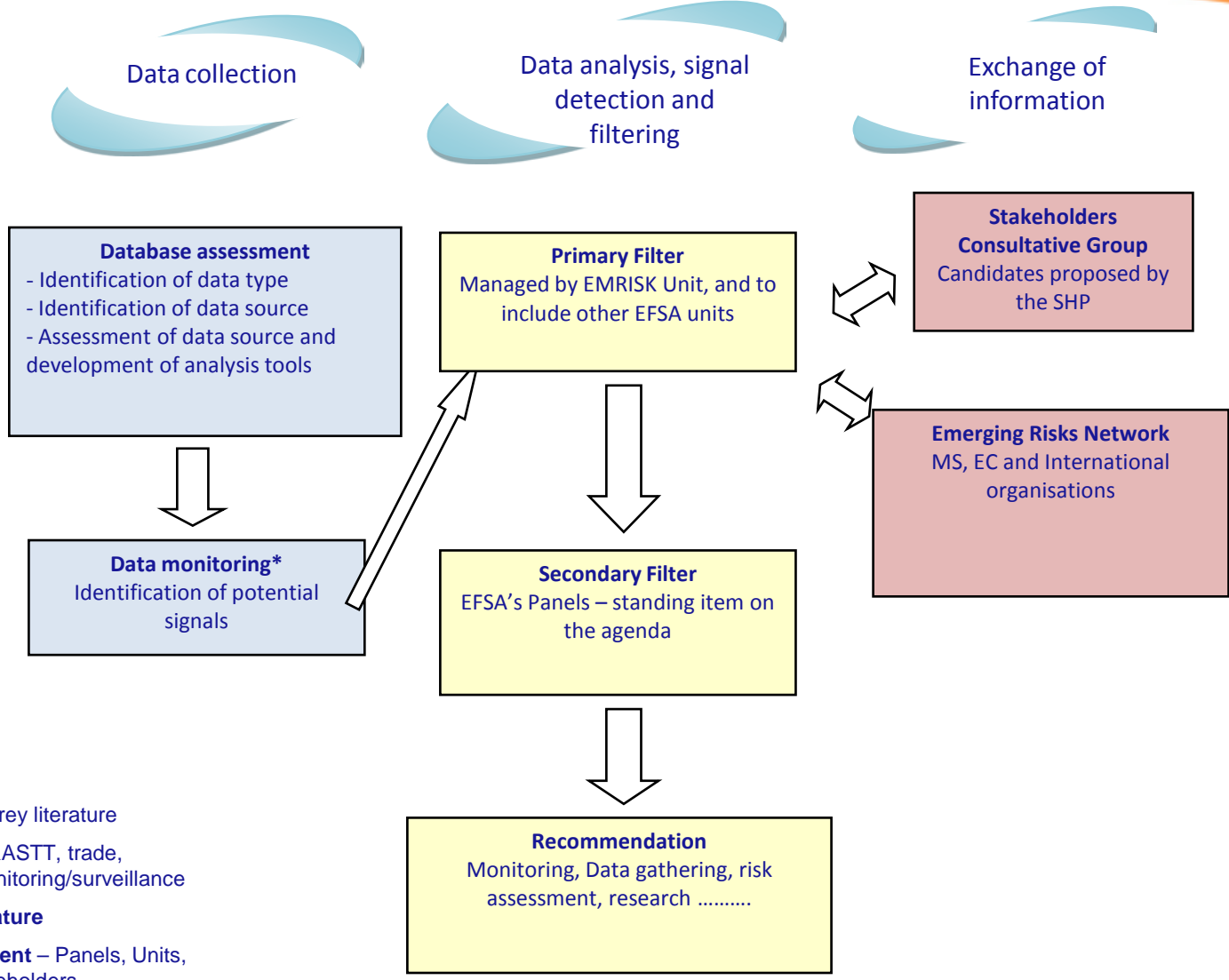
- Food and feed – EMRISK
 - Includes zoonotic agents
- Animal and plant health – AMU

Broadening of the monitoring anticipated:

- From 2011 - EMRISK – Plant health
- From 2012 – EMRISK – Animal health

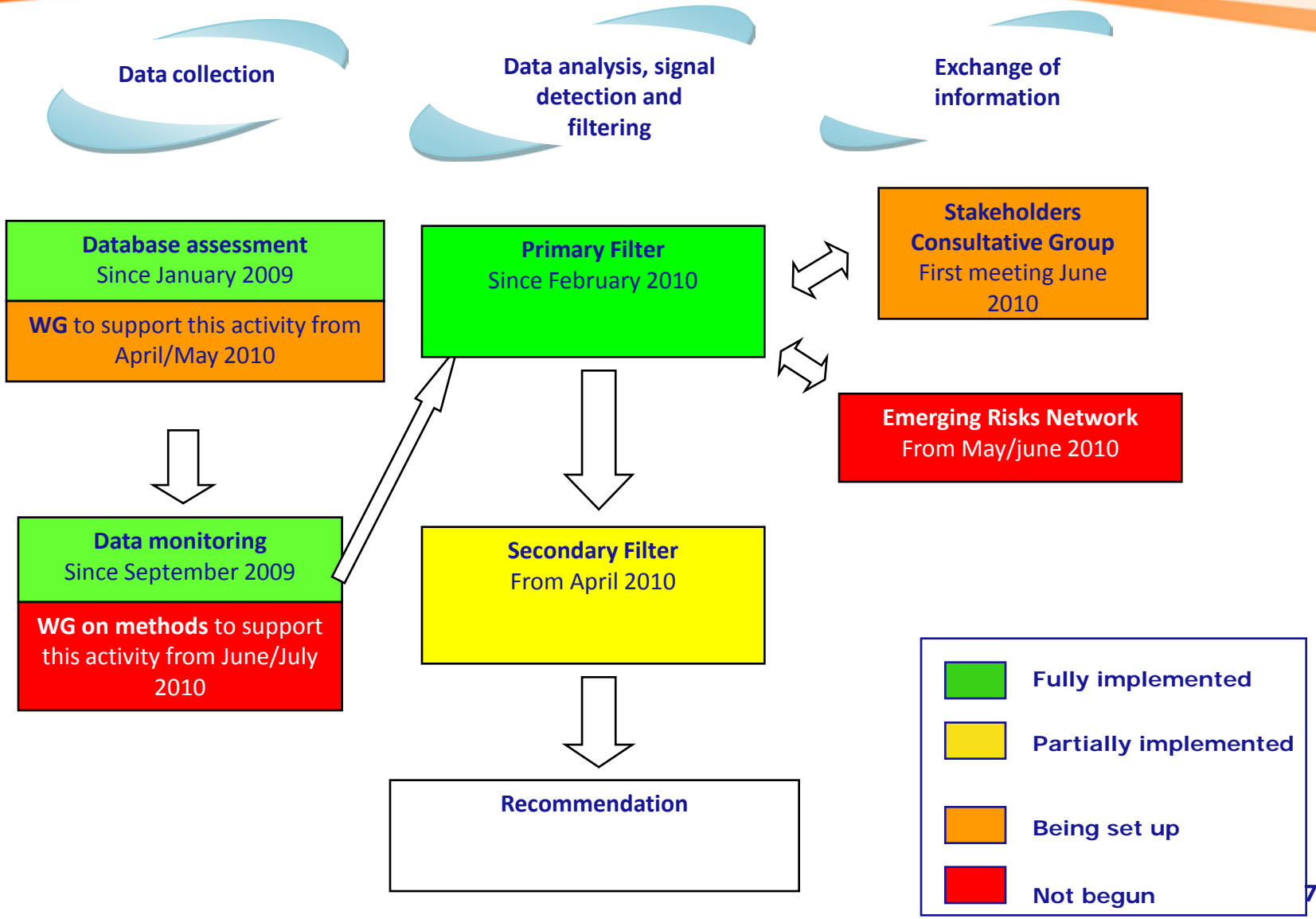
- In the process of being finalised
- Relies on three steps:
 - **Data collection**
 - Soft – media, grey literature
 - Regulatory – RASFF, trade data, compulsory monitoring/surveillance
 - Scientific literature
 - Expert judgement – Panels, Units, Networks, **Stakeholders**
 - **Data analysis**, signal detection and filtering
 - **Exchange of information**

Emerging risks identification system



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Soft – media, grey literature
Regulatory – RASTT, trade, compulsory Monitoring/surveillance
Scientific literature
Expert judgement – Panels, Units, Networks, Stakeholders

Implementation



Progressive implementation

- Initially, largely an expert opinion based approach.
- As signal analysis becomes available, this will be fed into the expert opinion process.

Stakeholders Consultative Group on Emerging Risks (StaCG-ER)

- To share information concerning identified emerging risks and/or signals,
- To share methods used to detect them and for the analysis of the collected data.
- To help in providing information for identifying emerging risks and potential drivers such as new technologies, industrial practices, and farming practices within the food and feed areas.

Utility of the group to be reviewed after 1 year.

- Annual report on the data, signals and methods reported by the StaCG-ER and any emerging risks or drivers of emerging risks identified.
- Presentation of the StaCG-ER activities at the EFSA Scientific Colloquium on emerging risks to be held in June 2010.

The StaCG-ER shall be composed of a group representing, as far as possible, the whole food chain, from primary production to retail. In particular, experts shall be selected according to the following:

- Expertise in current and novel industrial and agricultural practices, in food and feed technology, primary production, food and feed import, novel foods, food and feed additives, food supplements, food contact materials,
- Expertise and participation in ongoing activities in the area of emerging risks identification.

The selection will also ensure a balanced representation of both industry and consumer concerns.

Stakeholders Consultative Group StaCG-ER

- Strong selection of candidates has been received
- Some areas of expertise are under-represented
- Composition of the group is being finalised

- Crop protection products/pesticides,
- Food contact materials/packaging,
- Fruits and vegetables sector,
- Primary production and harvesting of animal products

Submission deadline extended to 23rd April,
First meeting anticipated on the 4th June